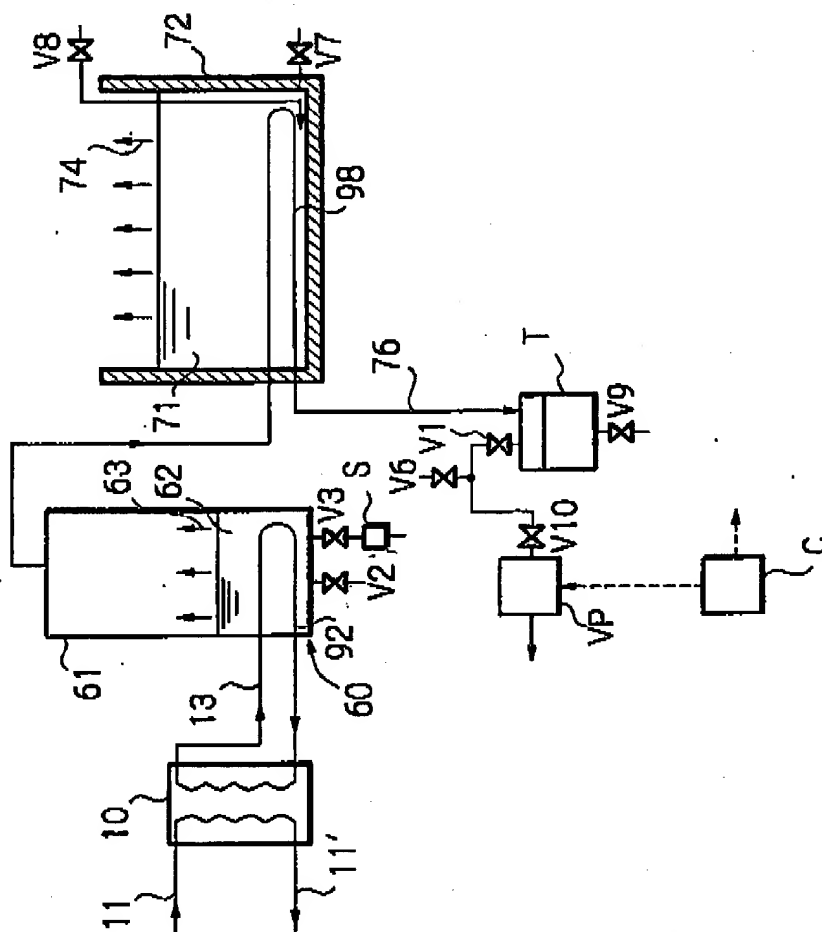


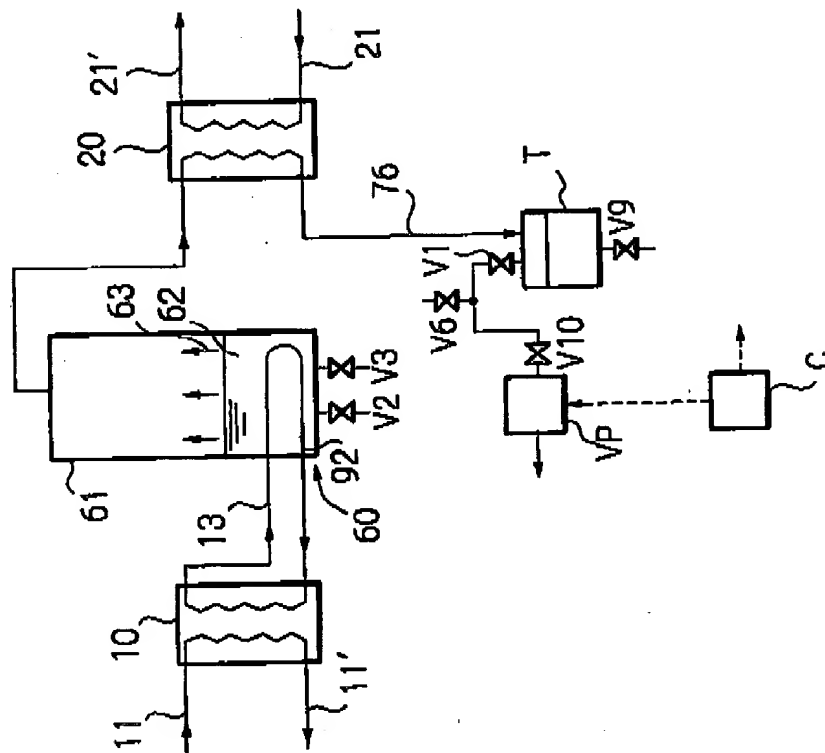
$\frac{1}{17}$

Fig. 1



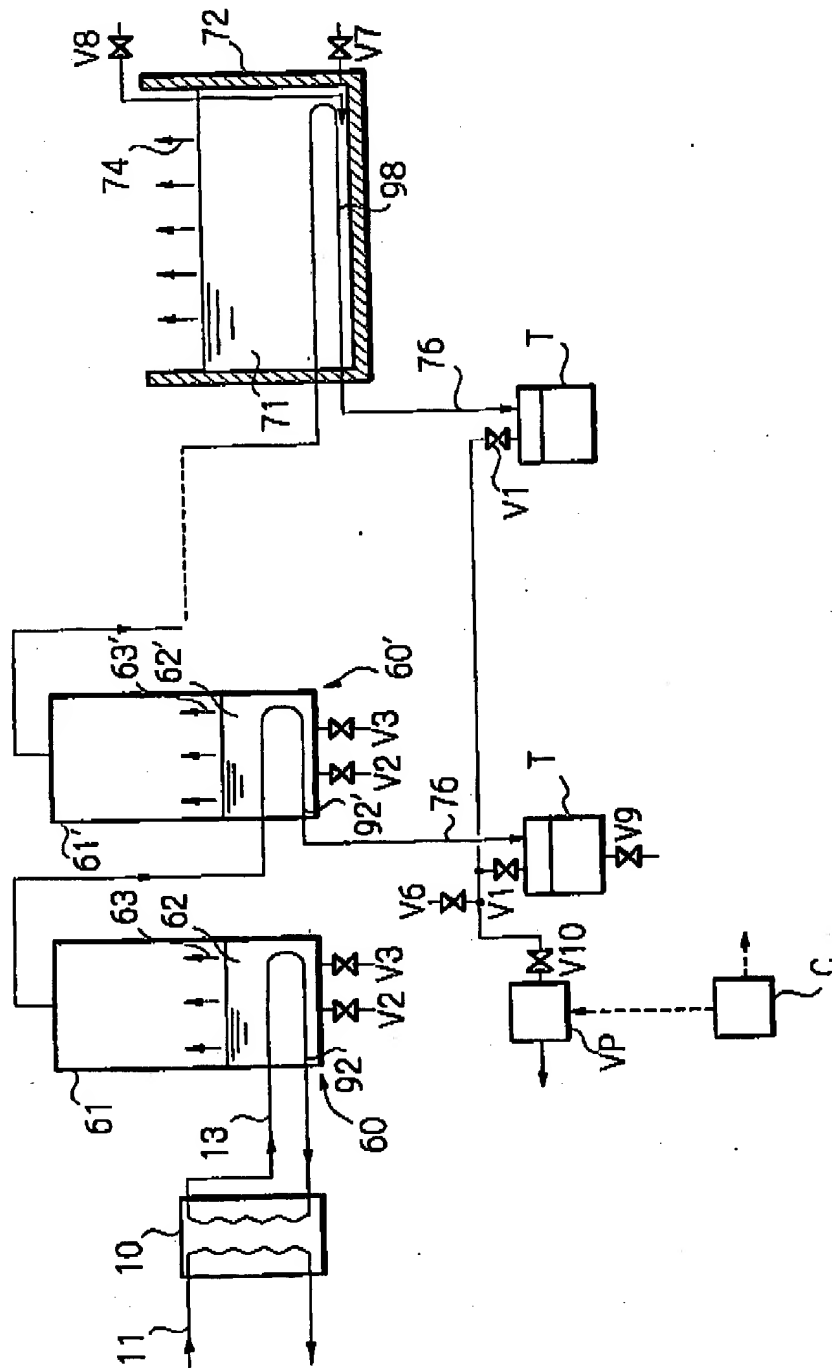
2/17

Fig. 2



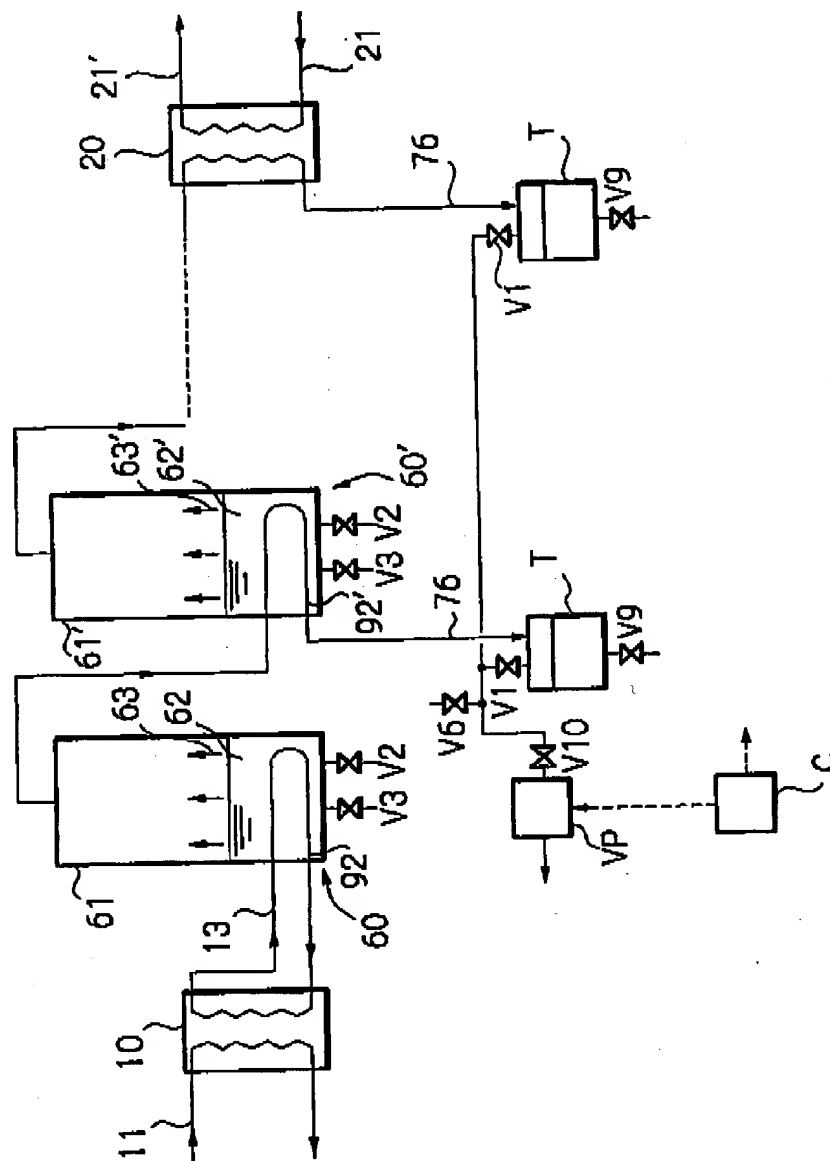
3/17

Fig. 3

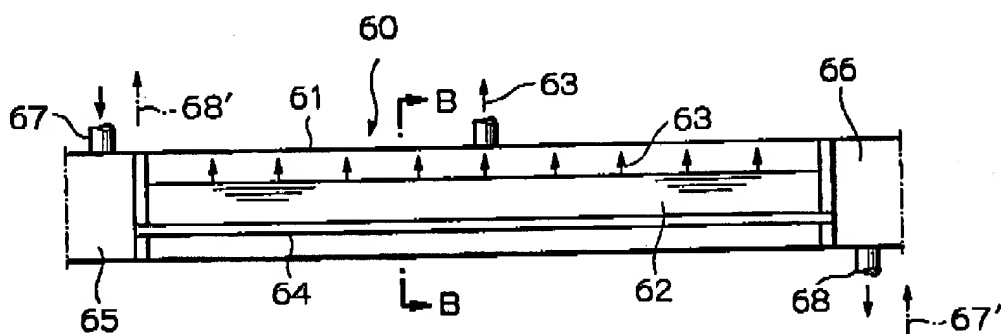
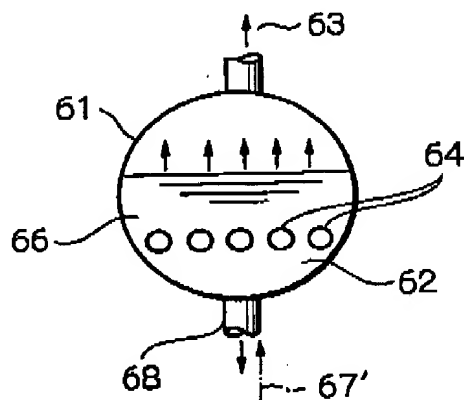


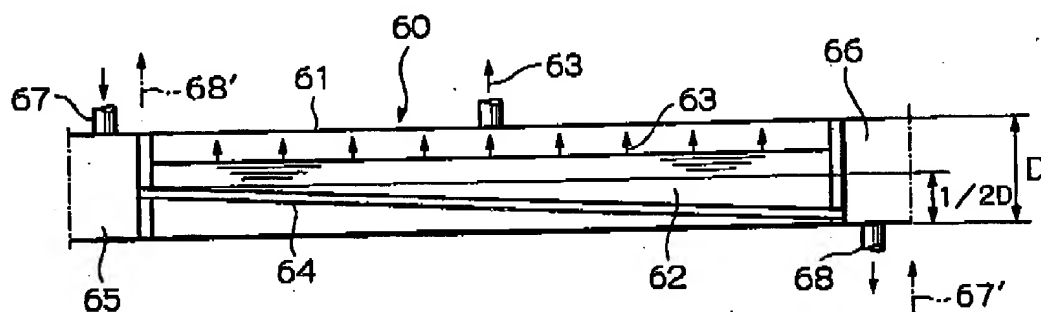
4/17

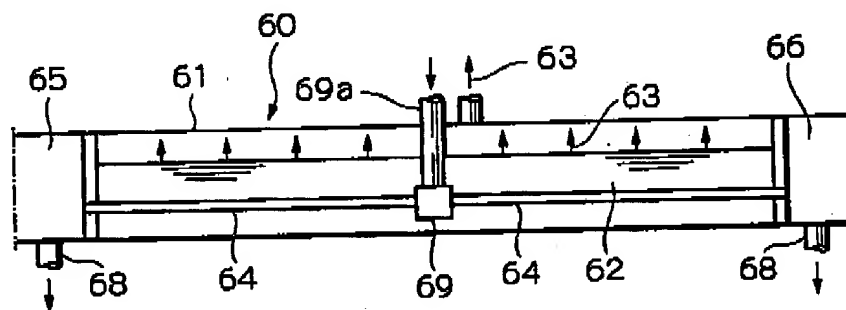
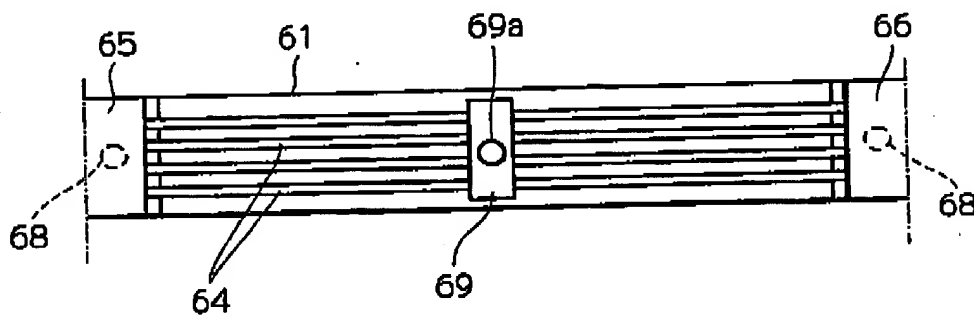
Fig. 4

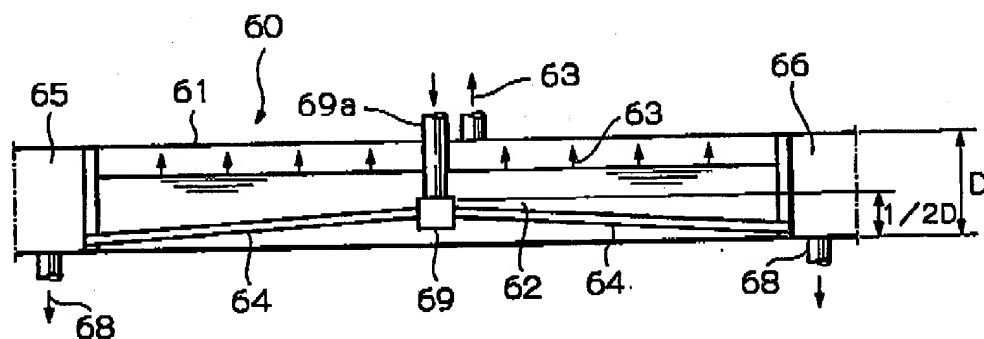


5/17

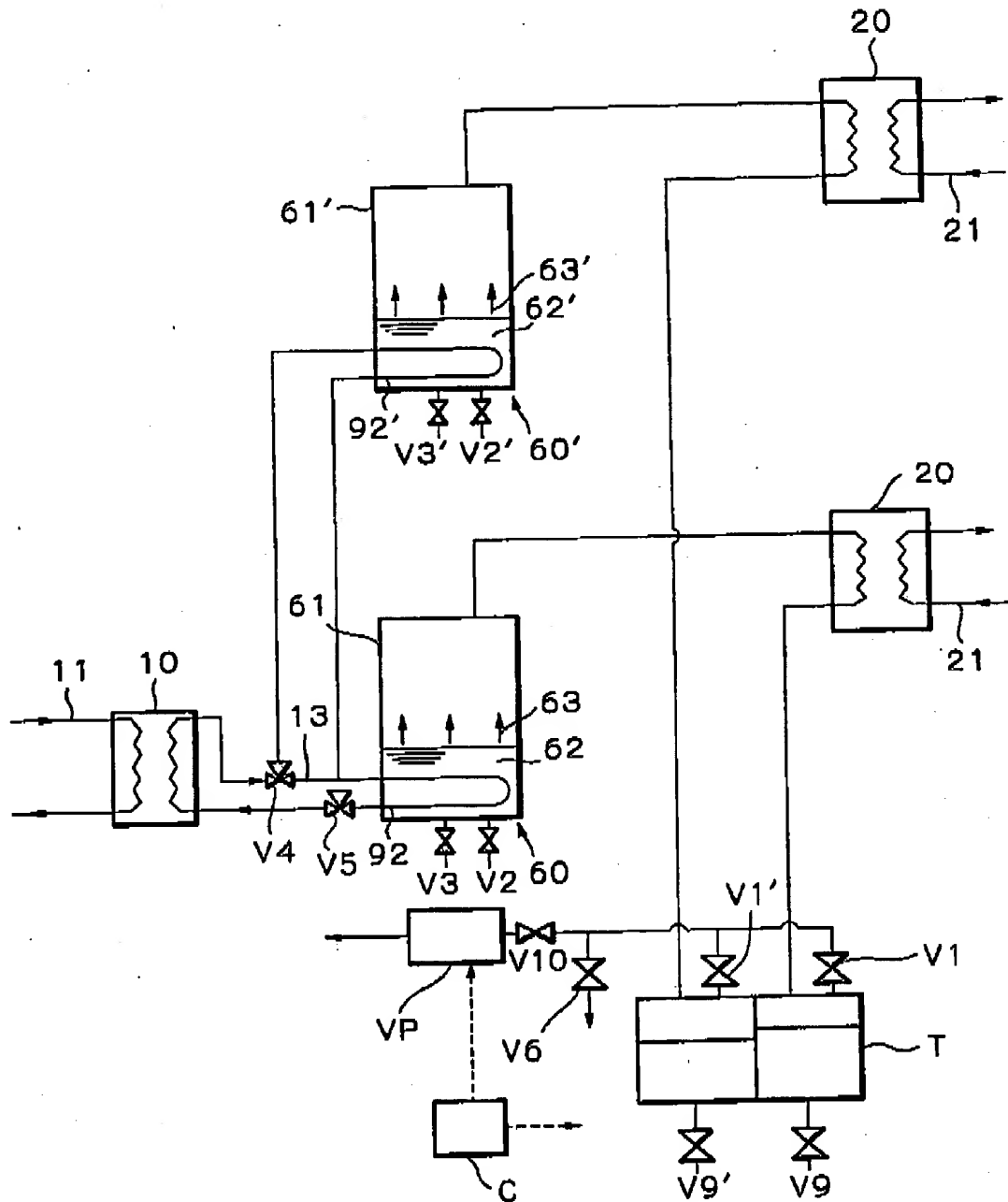
Fig. 5A*Fig. 5B*

$\frac{6}{17}$ *Fig. 6*

$\frac{7}{17}$ *Fig. 7A**Fig. 7B*

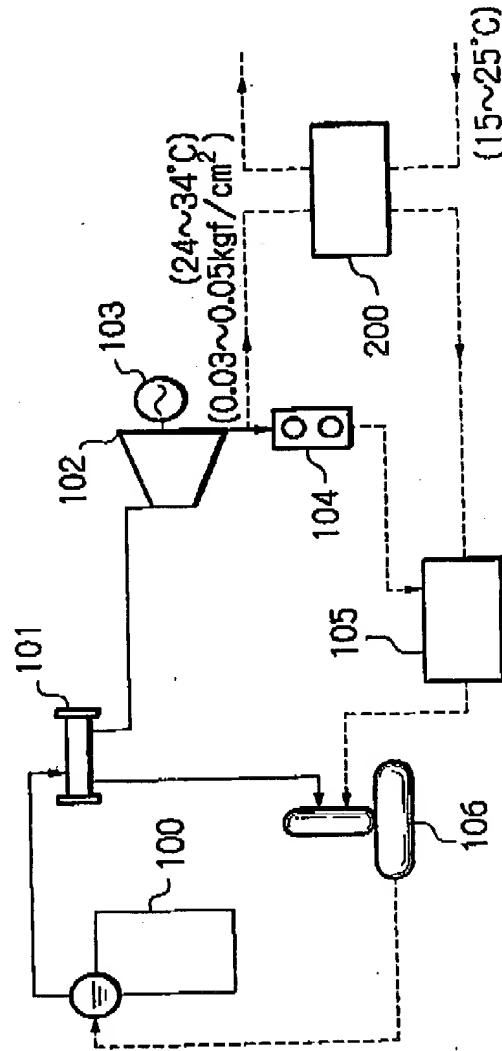
8/
17*Fig. 8*

9/17

Fig. 9

10/17

Fig. 10A



11/17

Fig. 10C

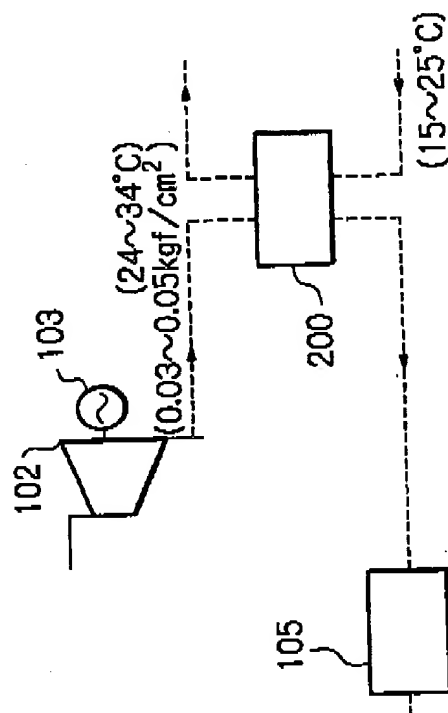
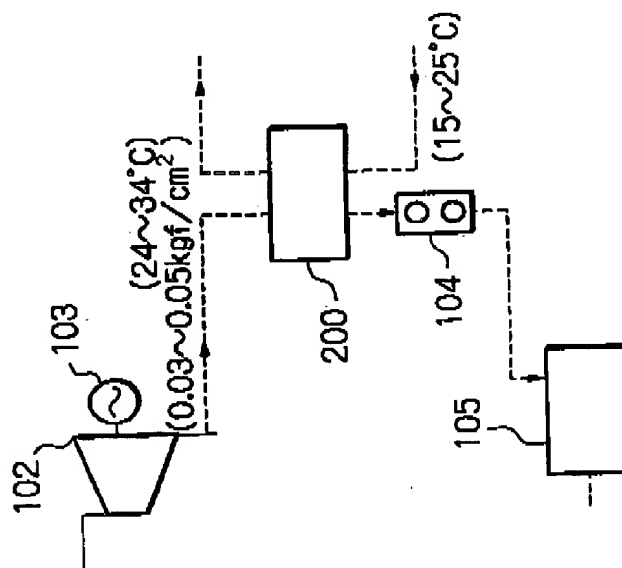
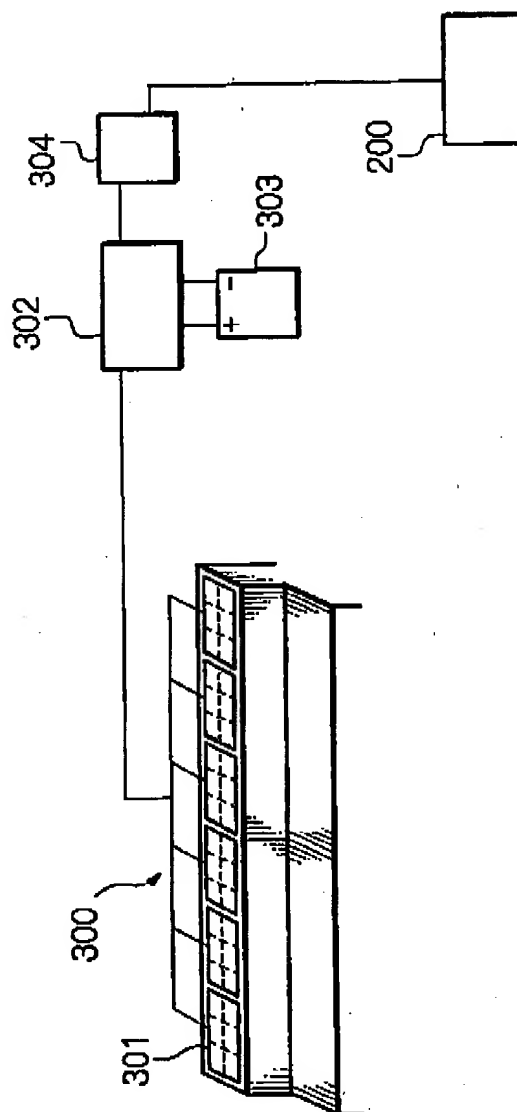


Fig. 10B

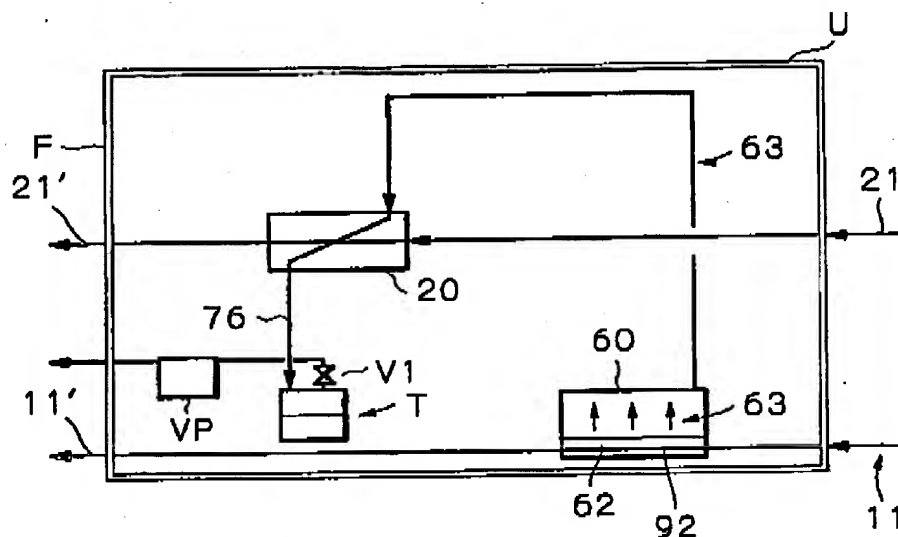
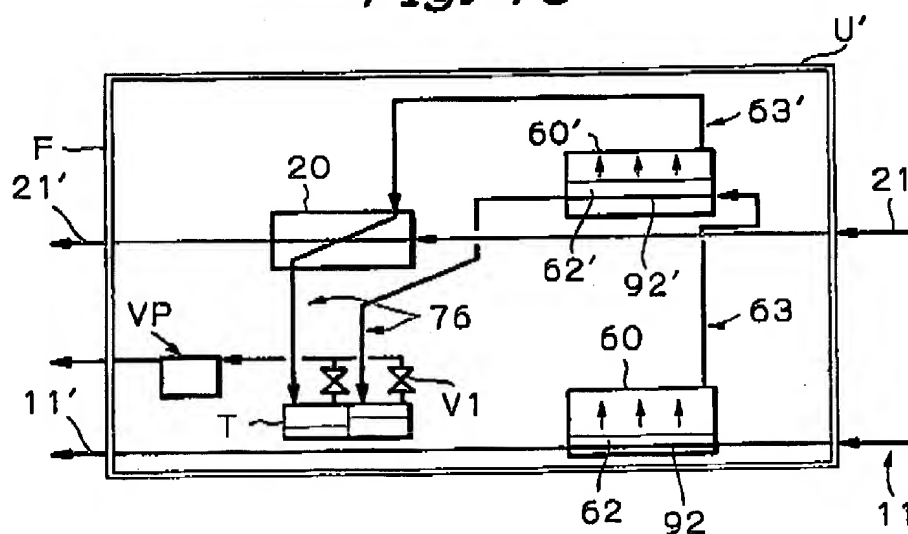


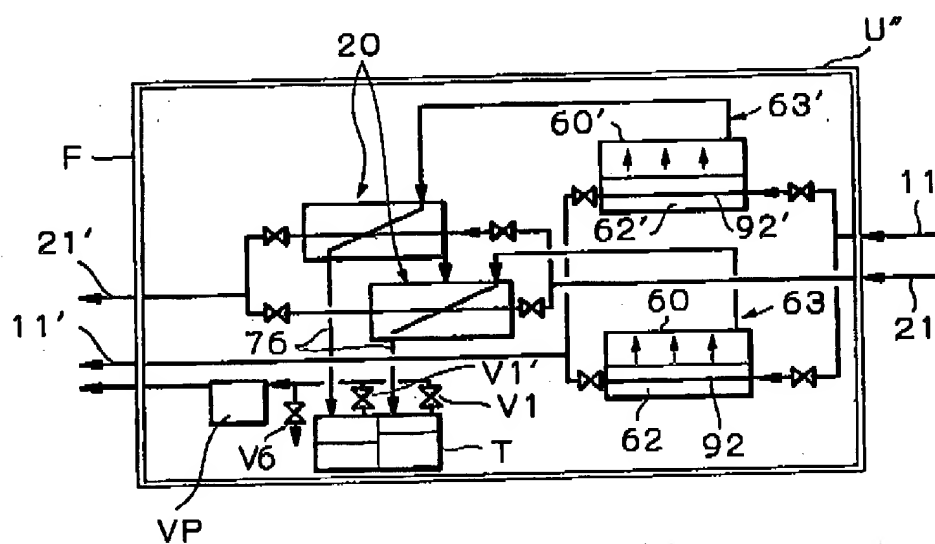
12/17

Fig. 11



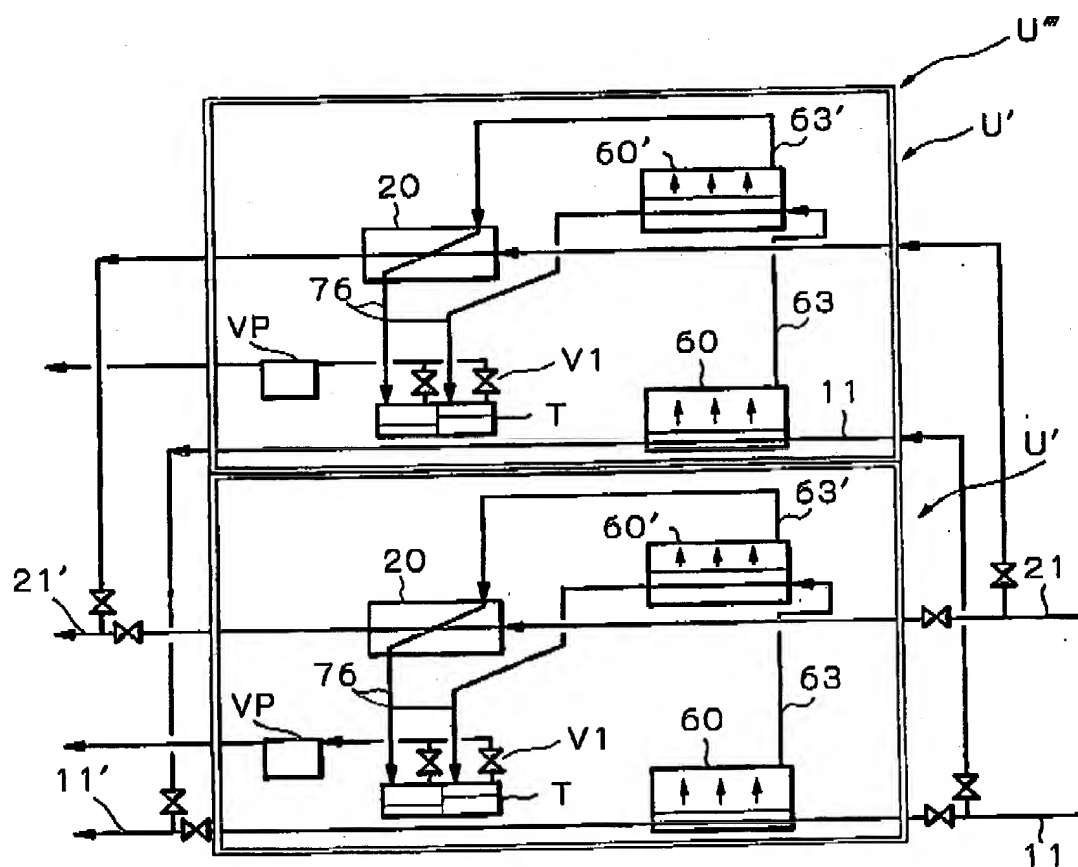
13/17

Fig. 12*Fig. 13*

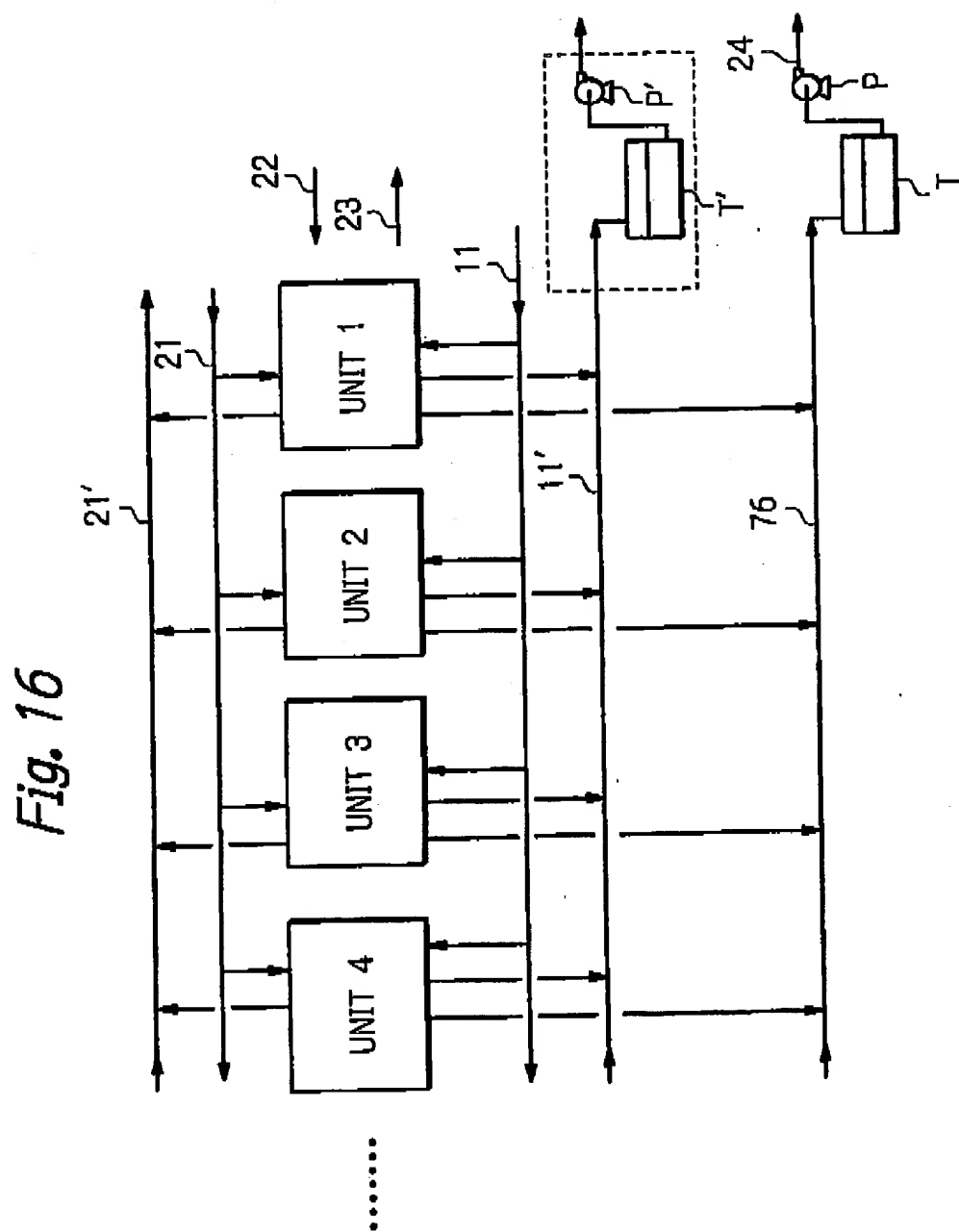
14/
17*Fig. 14*

15/
17

Fig. 15

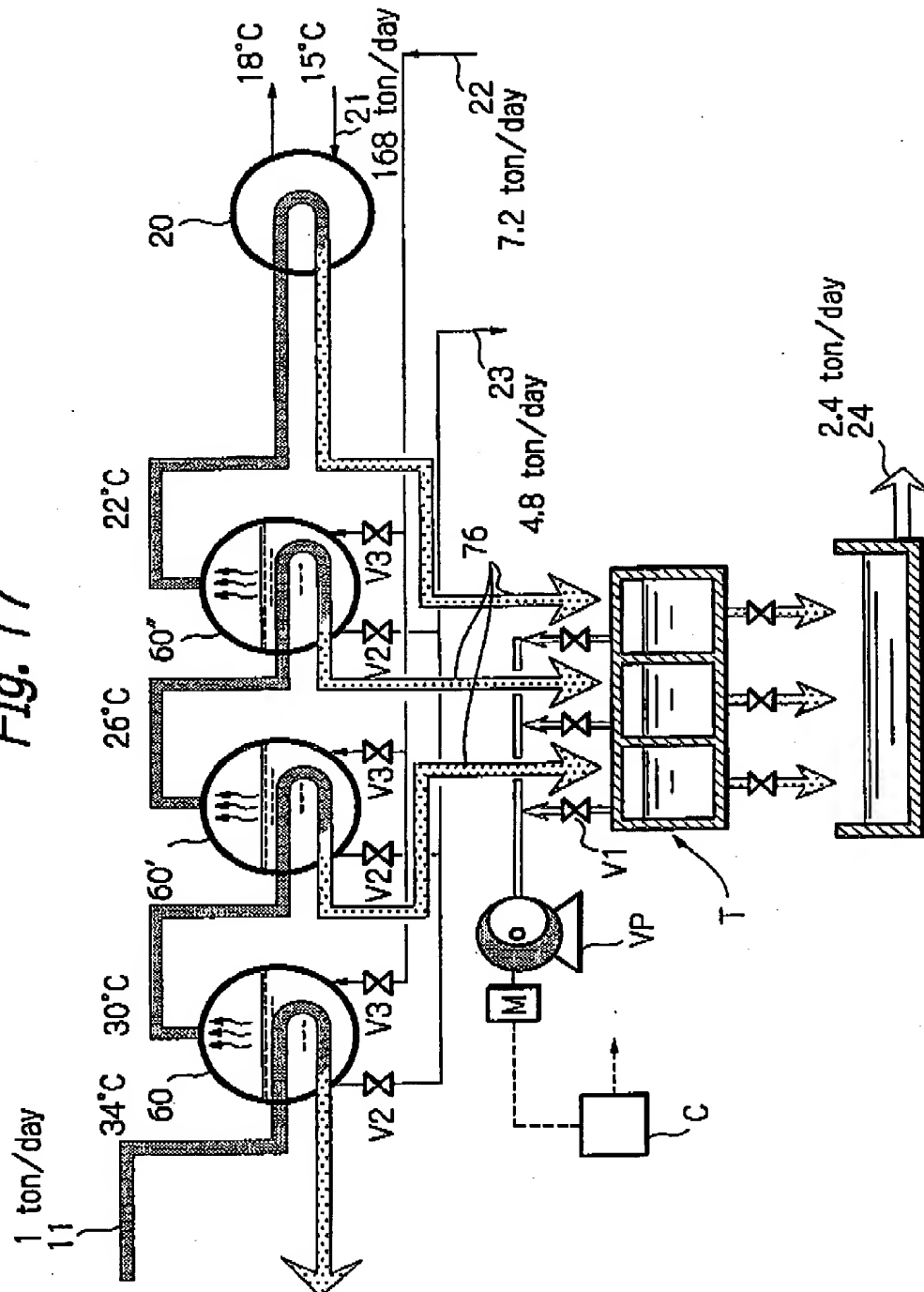


16/17



$$\frac{17}{17}$$

Fig. 17



Application No. 09/581,235

Reply to Office Action of June 25, 2003

for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 23, 26-28, 30-32, and 34-37 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413-2220

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Robert T. Pous
Registration No. 29,099
Attorney of Record

\\ATTY\PH\193\193380\PROP AM 102103.DOC